

# Around the West gate of JR Utsunomiya Station

## Utsunomiya Walking Tour Map

**Sakura (cherry blossom) at Tagawa River from the end of March until the beginning of April**

Why don't you walk around west exit of Utsunomiya station for a bit if you have a chance? Blooming Shidare-zakura (weeping cherry blossom) around Tagawa River will warmly welcome you in spring. Stroll around following 3 courses below for your self-guided tours that are full of attractions and foods!

### ① Short Course (approx. 30 - 40 mins)

"Sakura (cherry blossom) viewing & Kibuna (Lucky charm) & local food"

JR Utsunomiya station Gyoza Statue → Take away Gyoza (dumplings) at Gyoza shops → Viewing spot of sakura from Miya bridge → Shop at Fukube-Do <get lucky charms of Kibuna and Fukube lucky charms> → Visit Hozou Temple → Walk along Tagawa River viewing sakura (you can find benches as you go down the river path. Best to eat your Gyozas here) → Back to the station.

### ② Medium Course (approx. 40 - 60 mins)

"Old Shinohara Family House (Important Cultural Properties) & Oya Stone Warehouse"

JR Utsunomiya station → Gyoza Statue → Tagawa riverside walk. Go downstairs to the pathway from the eastside Miya bridge → Next stairs up → Coffee break at Café SAVOIA s-21. (café built with Oya stone) → Visit Old Shinohara Family House → Back to the station.

### ③ Long Course (approx. 60 - 90 mins)

"Slow walk with viewing sakura & Enjoy Gyoza"

JR Utsunomiya station → Gyoza Statue → Take-out some Gyoza dumplings from the Gyoza shop → Go downstairs to the east side of Tagawa River and walk to the North → Enjoy Gyoza & beer at Sennami Park with viewing sakura If you are lucky, you might see the Koinobori! (carp streamer) → Visit Old Shinohara Family House → Back to the station & get some Dorayaki & Daifuku for souvenirs.

### Main attraction

Tagawa River is right outside the west exit of Utsunomiya station. Walk along the hundreds of Shidare-zakura in the spring!



#### Gyoza Statue & Frog Statue

The symbol of Utsunomiya. At the center of the pathway, outside the west exit of the station, you will find the Gyoza statue, "venus" made of Oya stone. You can find the Frog Statue welcoming everyone on the first floor of the station.



Photo spot

#### Benches at Tagawa River

Special seats for sakura viewing. Get some sweets or dumplings from the shops around the station and enjoy them with sakura and river views.

#### Old Shinohara Family House

(Japan's Important Cultural Properties & City's Tangible Cultural Properties)

This is the house of Shinohara family who were fertilizer and miso merchants since the Edo period. The current building was built in 1895. The site includes three important properties of great architecture. 100yen for entrance. Open hours: 9am - 5pm. Closed on Mondays (if Monday is a national holiday, the next day) and days following the national holidays.



#### Bicycle Rental

Utsunomiya is also famous for cycling area. Why don't you rent a bike from the bicycle parking outside the station? Open hours: 8am - 9pm. Rental fees: 100yen for a city bicycle and 100yen for EAPC/Pedelec/e-bike electric bicycle.



### Gourmet & Souvenirs

Famous dumpling shops around the station.

Buy dumplings, sweets and enjoy them with the sakura view at Tagawa River.



#### Utsunomiya & Tochigi Souvenirs

##### Tochigi Grand Marche

<0 minutes walk>

Selected items from all over Tochigi. Convenient to buy Souvenirs, located at the station. We highly recommend "Chat", made by "Shimotsukekashidokoro-Usagiya". It's delicious and has been loved by many people in Utsunomiya for ages! Why don't you try it and enjoy the harmonies eggs and butter. You will love it too!

Open hours: 8am - 9pm, all days



#### Gyoza statue monaka & Tochtotome strawberry Nama-Dorayaki & Tochtotome strawberry Daifuku

##### Onkashitsukasa Masukin

<1 minute walk>

A traditional Japanese sweets store, Masukin is located on the first floor in the station. Tochtotome strawberry Nama-Dorayaki, the moist and chewy pancakes filled with cream of ripe strawberries from Tochigi are highly recommended. The Gyoza statue monaka shape is a replica of the Gyoza statue approved by the Utsunomiya Gyoza society paste with plenty of red beans is a brand name made in Hokkaido. Also, try the seasonal limited Tochtotome strawberry Daifuku, the rice cake sheet filled with fresh, big Tochtotome strawberry!

Open hours: 10:am - 8pm. Closed days: based on Utsunomiya Station Paseo's calendar.



#### Kibuna & Fukube Fukube-Do

<9 minutes walk>

Tochigi traditional craft "Fukube saiku" is famous for talisman masks. Don't forget to check out the varieties of the other lucky charms too!

Open hours: 10am - 6pm. Closed days: Sundays and national holidays

